[2nd November 1931

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know from the hon. the Second Minister the special reasons for the delay in filling up the appointment? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" The matter is still under consideration. The reply is there on the paper."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Has the Government addressed the Government of India or the Secretary of State for permission to appoint a civilian to the post of Director of Agriculture? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I am not in a position to say more than what is put on the paper."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Is not the hon. Minister in a position to say whether or not he has addressed any such communication to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I have already replied to it."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" What is his reply to the question whether a communication to that effect has or has not been sent to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I am not in a position to reply to the question."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Is the information confidential? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Yes, until orders are passed. The matter is now under consideration."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" With reference to the question on the same subject put by me on the 5th August last, the Council Secretary to my hon. Friend asked for notice. Now that notice has been given, I should like to know whether any such communication has been sent or not? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I am not aware of any notice having been given."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I ask whether the hon. Minister denies that any such communication was sent to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I have already answered that, Sir."

Delay in filling the post of the Director of Agriculture.

* 512 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state why there is delay in the appointment of a permanent successor to Mr. Hilson, the late Director of Agriculture?

A.—Because the Government are considering the question.